

PATENT

Docket No.: 2390/47503

HOVO -17102

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S)

Jacob Richter

SERIAL NO.

09/599,158

FILED

June 21, 2000

FOR

STENT WITH VARIABLE FEATURES TO OPTIMIZE

SUPPORT AND METHOD OF MAKING SUCH STENTS

EXAMINER

Nguyen, T.

GROUP ART UNIT:

3731

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

C 3700 MAII BCO

RESPONSE

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of August 15, 2002, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 48 and 51-53

54. (amended) An expandable stent having a non-uniform radial force, comprising:

a plurality of interconnected flexible cells defining a stent having a proximal end and a distal end and a longitudinal axis, the cells arranged in a plurality of interconnected flexible rows disposed along the longitudinal axis of the stent with a distal row disposed at the distal end of the stent and a proximal row disposed at the proximal end of the stent, wherein at least one of the rows is adapted to provide a different radial force than the other flexible rows,